Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu :—" So, unless resolutions of this kind are supported by the Excise Advisory and Licensing Boards the Government would not take any action ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" The Government will consider the advice of their officials and if they think it necessary they will issue orders in accordance therewith. But apart from that, the district committees can themselves take action."

Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu :—" May I know if these resolutions were considered at all by the Government ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" Whenever such resolutions are received, they are considered."

Reduction in the excise revenues of the province.

* 1418 Q.—Mr. S. Satyamurti : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has recommended any reduction in the excise revenue of the province being budgeted for as a result of his prohibition policy ;

(b) if so, how much, and

(c) if not, why not ?

A.—(a) *to* (c) No. It is not possible to anticipate at present what the financial effect will be during 1929–30 of the scheme of propaganda work which is to be started.

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" May I know whether the fact that the Government do not anticipate any fall in the excise revenue is the reason why they have not budgeted for any reduction in excise revenue in the budget for the ensuing year ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" I am afraid that is not the reason."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" Then, may I know what the reason is ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" The reason is that it is not possible to anticipate what the fall would be."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—" In view of the fact that not even a pie is budgeted for as reduction in the excise revenue, may I know whether the Government anticipate any fall at all, as a result of their temperance propaganda ?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" The excise revenue may fall."

Mr. R. Nagan Gowda :—" May I know whether they expect any effect from the propaganda carried on ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" They do."

Medical

Appointment of Indian I.M.S. officers to civil duty in Madras.

* 1419 Q.—Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) how many Indian I.M.S. officers there are in civil employ in this Presidency ;

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(b) how many of them are born in this province;

(c) whether these officers were posted to Madras without consulting the Local Government;

(d) what are the reasons for not preferring Madras men in the Indian Medical Service who are acquainted with the language and condition of the people in posting I.M.S. officers to civil duty in this province; and

(e) whether the Madras Government propose to urge the Government of India that as far as possible only Madras men in the Indian Medical Service should be posted to civil duty in Madras; and, if not, why not?

A.—(a) Sixteen.

(b) Seven, according to the information available with the Government.

(c) Yes, in the majority of cases.

(d) The Government are not aware of the reasons which influenced the Government of India in selecting the officers to be posted to this Presidency.

(e) According to the recent reorganization of the Indian Medical Service, no officer will be transferred to civil employment without the consent of the Local Government. The suggestion of the hon. Member will naturally be considered when the services of Indian Medical Service officers have to be obtained in future.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"With reference to the answer to clause (d), may I ask whether the Minister in charge of the Medical portfolio at that time had insisted upon seeing that only people belonging to the province were sent, and if so, whether the Government of India refused to accept his suggestion?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar:—"Mr. President, I do not know the full history of the thing. But I may say that this Government have been insisting on it for these six or seven years and we are now given the power."

Appointment of I.M.D. officers to civil duty in Madras.

*1420 *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) how many I.M.D. officers are now serving in the Civil Medical Department in Madras and how many of them are permanently posted to it and how many of them are temporary;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have declared that they will not compel Provincial Governments to employ I.M.D. officers if they are unwilling to have them;

(c) whether the Government have ascertained that the Local Governments of the Punjab and the United Provinces have notified to the authorities in Simla their unwillingness to take any more I.M.D. officers;

(d) whether the Madras Government have made or propose to make a similar representation to the Government of India;

(e) whether it is a fact that many of the I.M.D. officers serving in the Civil Medical Department in Madras do not even possess qualifications registrable in England;